

York County Site Selection Commission

Meeting Minutes

August 1, 2016

Present: Assoc. Justice Thomas E. Humphrey, Kathryn Slattery, D.A., Sheriff William L. King, Jr., Thomas Dunham, Senator Ron Collins, Senator Linda Valentino, Representative Robert A. Foley, Representative Anne-Marie Mastraccio, York County Commissioner Gary Sinden, Justice Wayne Douglas, Judge Jeffrey Moskowitz, Kathy Jones, Ken Marass, Esq., Amy Fairfield, Esq., Chief Jo-Ann Putnam, Sherry Edwards, James T. Glessner, Mary Ann Lynch, Philip Johnston

Next meeting: September 1, 2016, 3:00 p.m., York County Superior Court- Library

The Chair, Justice Humphrey, opened the meeting, welcomed the commission and introduced its members to the public attendees. He noted that the mission of the commission is to establish procedures and select an appropriate site for a York County courthouse. Although the statute creating the Commission establishes a deadline of January 1, 2017, for reaching this goal, the Chair urged the commission to attempt to complete its work by November 2016.

The Chair also discussed the issue of conflict of interest and indicated that members should disclose any possible conflicts of interest in the course of the work and not participate in discussion or vote on a matter if they have a conflict of interest.

The Chair introduced Mary Ann Lynch, who is the Government and Media Counsel for the Judicial Branch, and Philip Johnston, who is an architect-consultant hired by the Judicial Branch. Mr. Johnston has worked on several previous court projects for the Judicial Branch as the owner's representative. Together, Ms. Lynch and Mr. Johnson provided a PowerPoint presentation to the commission drawn from an earlier presentation prepared for the York County Courthouse Advisory Committee. The PowerPoint contained summaries of York County case filing information and population data.

Mr. Johnston also provided the Commission with a draft worksheet of proposed criteria for evaluating properties. He stated that the criteria were intended as a guide to assist the Commission with its decision-making—they are not binding requirements. Criteria included, among other things, Location, Site Characteristics, and Proximity to Public Utilities. After discussion, an additional criteria was added to the worksheet to include the “Fiscal Impact to the County, including the DA”. It was unanimously voted to accept and use the worksheet criteria as proposed by Mr. Johnson.

Prior to the first meeting, the Administrative Office of the Judicial Branch published a request in local newspapers for information regarding available York County properties that might be suitable for a courthouse. As of this meeting, four responses have been received.

There was a discussion regarding the need to identify more sites for consideration. The Commission unanimously voted to create a sub-committee to research available land that might fit the commission’s requirements. Senator Linda Valentino, Representative Anne-Marie Mastraccio, Ted Glessner and Thomas Dunham volunteered and were appointed to serve on the subcommittee. Among other things, they were tasked with identifying a larger list of possible properties for the Commission to consider.

The Commission also unanimously voted to set aside time at the end of each meeting to allow public comment.

Dates and locations of future meetings were discussed, and the commission agreed to meet on the following dates:

Thursday, 9/2

Monday, 9/19

Monday, 10/3

Monday, 10/31

Friday, 11/4 (if necessary)

All meetings will be held at the York County Superior Courthouse, in the library at 3:00 p.m., unless otherwise changed.

Following the public comment period, the meeting was adjourned.